

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, November 20, 2014

Present: Kathy Liberman, Christine Taylor, Lisa Galipo, Joe Mehan, Claire Mehan, Kathy Bagley, Erica Texeira Adele Antoniou, Barbara Higbee, Agnes Bolasevich, Henry Hornat, Chris Skowronek, Connie Rosato, Josephine Dlugoleski.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 16, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously: motion by Joe Mehan, 2nd by Barbara Higbee.

Old Business:

- **Committee Membership:** Kathy Liberman reminded us that there are still openings for members in Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. She welcomed Erica Texeira (the new Assistant Director of Social & Youth Services), Henry Hornat, Connie Rosato, and Josie Dlugoleski (3 possible candidates for membership in SCAC).
- **Financial Update:** Lisa Galipo reported there is a balance of \$1,400 in our account.

New Business:

- **Spring 2015 Educational Event:**
 - The newly formed Event Committee will meet after today's SCAC meeting to discuss themes for next year's educational event. One possibility is "Back to Basics/Home Ec for Seniors".

Committee Reports:

- **Council Liaison:** No report. Tony Martino was unable to attend today's meeting.
- **Wethersfield Housing Authority:** Kathy Liberman reported:
 - The Authority is getting ready for the holidays.
 - Wethersfield High School's Bike Club has been refurbishing used/old bikes which will be donated to local residents.
 - Food Share Program continues to provide food items every other week.
- **Clergy:** Pastor Chris Skowronek reported:
 - Everything is quiet. Getting ready for the upcoming holidays.
- **Social & Youth Services:** Kathy Bagley reported:
 - Erica Texeira has joined the department.
 - Sat., Nov. 22, the Thanksgiving Food Baskets will be assembled for distribution to local families.

- Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent: Chris Taylor reported
 - December 7 is the deadline for Medicare open enrollment.
 - 165 applications have been received for CRT Energy Assistance Program.
 - Financial limits for state tax relief are \$34,600/singles and \$42,600/couples. Applications will be accepted from Feb. 1, 2015 – May 15, 2015. At the town level, the limit is \$40,000 for singles and for couples.
 - A holiday party was held Nov. 17 for people with disabilities. Approximately 75 people attended.
 - Upcoming events include Santa's Pancake Breakfast of Dec. 6 and A Holiday Party on Dec. 15, both at the Pitkin Community Center.
- Senior Center Activities: Lisa Galipo reported:
 - The “Lunch & Learn” series continues with (1) a speaker from the CT Society of Genealogists on Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 12 noon, and (2) a representative from the CT Humane Society on Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 12 noon.
 - Several day trips are in the works, including a March 12, 2015 trip to Foxwoods Casino for a day of Irish entertainment.
- Wethersfield Seniors Club: Agnes Bolasevich:
 - The annual Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for Dec. 17 for the Bingo players and Dec. 19 for the Setback players.

Comments & Questions:

- Connie Rosato, a visitor to the SCAC meeting, questioned the change in pricing on classes offered at Wethersfield High School through the Adult Ed program, especially the elimination of senior discounts.
- Connie also suggested that a central clearing point be established to match seniors who need assistance with household duties (raking, mowing, shoveling, etc.) with students who need to complete community service hours.

The next meeting is January 15, 2015 at 3:00 pm immediately followed by a meeting of the Planning Committee for spring educational event.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Mehan, 2nd by Barbara Higbee. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Mehan, Member At-Large